

Message Text

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72

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3138

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, LT

SUBJ: PARLIAMENTARY DEVELOPMENTS

REF : MASERU 434, 435; MASERU A-29

1. GAZETTE CONTAINING LIST OF NOMINEES TO INTERIM NATIONAL ASSEMBLY POUCHED APR 25. TWO CORRECTIONS ARE NATHANIEL NKUATSANA FOR LAURENTI NKUATSANA, AND BERNICE MOHAPELOA FOR DORICE MOHAPELOA.

2. OF 60 INDIVIDUALS NOMINATED UNDER PARA (B) OF SECTION 5 OF LESOTHO ORDER 1973:

- TWELVE ARE PRESENT MINISTERS;
- EIGHTEEN ARE BNP MEMBERS FROM VARIOUS AREAS OF COUNTRY;
- FOUR ARE WELL- KNOWN NATIONAL FIGURES AND FORMER BNP POLITICIANS.

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ASIDE FROM 12 MINISTERS (OF WHICH TEN HAVE STOOD FOR ELECTION AT SOME TIME SINCE 1965) ONLY FOUR OF ABOVE HAVE BEEN ELECTORAL CANDIDATES.

TWENTY INDIVIDUALS FROM BCP, INCLUDING BCP LEADER NTSU MOKHEHLE AND VICE CHAIRMAN GERARD P. RAMOREBOLI, HAVE BEEN NAMED. NINE OF THESE REPRESENT FACTION LED BY RAMOREBOLI, WHICH AMENABLE TO PM'S VERION OF RECONCILIATION AND IN CONFLICT WITH MOKHEHLE AND BCP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. IN ADDITION TO MOKHEHLE, RAMOREBOLI AND POKA CHOALANA (RAMOREBOLI FACTION), SEVEN HAVE BEEN CANDIDATES OR CONSTITUENCY LEADERS. MOST OF THESE ARE IN RAMOREBOLI WING OF PARTY. VERY FEW OF THE 20 BCP NOMINEES WERE ARRESTED IN 1970 AND AT LEAST NINE, BUT POSSIBLY MORE, ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE THEIR SEATS. ONE BCP MAN NOT EXPECTED TO TAKE HIS SEAT FRIDAY IS GODFREY KOLISANG, WHO IS AT INNS OF COURT IN LONDON.

MFP GOT FOUR SEATS, INCLUDING PARTY LEADER EDWIN LEANYA. ONLY NOTABLE OMISSION IS B. M. KHAKETLA, WHO HAS BEEN IN DISAGREEMENT WITH HIS PARTY ON ITS ACCEPTANCE OF BNP TERMS FOR RECONCILIATION.

UDP OBTAINED TWO SEATS, INCLUDING LEADER CHARLES MOFELI.

3. WITH EXCEPTION OF NINE OR TEN BCP NOMINEES WHO SIDING WITH MOKHEHLE, INDIVIDUALS WITH VOTING POWER ON BILLS (I. E. 60 INDIVIDUALS NAMED UNDER PARA (B) OF LESOTHO ORDER 1973) ARE PERSONS KNOWN FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF PM'S PROPOSALS FOR ACHIEVING RECONCILIATION.

4. ELEVEN " NATIONAL HEROES" NAMED UNDER PARA (C) OF SECTION 5 OF LESOTHO ORDER 1973 ARE ALL PRO- BNP. TWO ARE FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS. THESE ARE LONG MABATHOANA, WHO HAS BEEN ASSESSOR OF HIGH COURT AND IS UNCLE OF PERMSEC FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS; AND ANTHONY S. RALEBITSO, UNTIL RECENTLY SENIOR PRIVATE SECRETARY TO PM. MRS BERNICE MOHAPELOA, ONE OF TWO WOMEN NAMED UNDER PARA 5 (B) AND (C), HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS; AND CASWELL MOLAPO IS A CHIEF FROM LERIBE DISTRICT. REMAINING SEVEN ARE BUSINESSMEN.

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